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Message Text

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44
ACTION NEA-12

INFO OCT-01 EUR-25 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-07 H-03

INR-10 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-10 PA-04 RSC-01 PRS-01 SPC-03

SS-20 USIA-15 ACDA-19 IO-14 EB-11 COME-00 INT-08

SCEM-02 SCI-06 OMB-01 TRSE-00 DRC-01 /177 W
---------- 124505
R 301101Z NOV 73
FM AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2476
INFO AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV
AMEMBASSY JIDDA

C O N F I D E N T I A L THE HAGUE 5244

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: XF, XG, US
SUBJ: CALL ON SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR

1. SUMMARY: CHARGE'S CALL ON SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR NOWILATY (FIRST SAUDI AMBASSADOR TO RESIDE IN THE HAGUE) AFFORDED OPPORTUNITY FOR LATTER TO UNBURDEN HIMSELF SOMEWHAT EMOTIONALLY ON LONGSTANDING ARAB GRIEVANCES AND CURRENT REQUIREMENTS IN VIEW OF THEIR NEW-FOUND SOLIDARITY. IT ALSO AFFORDED THE CHARGE THE OPPORTUNITY TO EMPHASIZE THE IMPORTANT CONTRIBUTION THE US HAD ALREADY MADE TOWARD SECURING THE ARABS' AVOWED OBJECTIVE OF A PEACEFUL SETTLEMENT IN THE AREA. END SUMMARY.

2. NOWILATY SAID ISRAEL MUST WITHDRAW TO BOUNDARIES IT HOLD PRIOR TO JUNE 1967 WAR BUT HE HAD SERIOUS DOUBTS WHETHER ISRAEL WOULD ACCEPT THIS. THE WHOLE TROUBLE WAS THAT ISRAEL WAS AND HAD TO BE AN QUOTE EXPANSIONIST UNQUOTE STATE BECAUSE ALL OR VIRTUALLY ALL OF THE 16 MILLION JEWS LIVING OUTSIDE OF ISRAEL WOULD SOONER OR LATER WANT TO RETURN. NOWILATY SEEMED IMPERVIOUS TO CHARGE'SARGUMENT THAT THERE WAS A VAST PRACTICAL DIFFERENCE BETWEEN THE RIGHT OF RETURN, ON WHICH THE
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ISRAELIS INSISTED, AND THE DESIRE TO RETURN WHICH, FOR EXAMPLE,

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DID NOT OPERATE WITH THE MAJORITY OF AMERICAN JEWS.

3. IN TALKING ABOUT THE ARAB OIL BOYCOTT NOWILATY SPOKE IN TERMS OF EUROPE HAVING GROWN FAT AND PROSPEROUS ON ARAB OIL AND THE NEED TO MAKE THE EUROPEANS SUFFER IN THEIR HIGH STANDARD OF LIVING SO THAT THEY WOULD APPRECIATE THE SUFFERINGS OF THE PALESTINAINS. HE DID NOT DIRECT THIS ANIMUS PRIMARILY AT THE DUTCH, SIMPLY CITING THEM AS A NATION WHICH HAD DOUBLED ITS INDUSTRIAL PRODUCT IN THE LAST 25 YEARS. NOWILATY MADE IT CLEAR THAT THE OBJECTIVES OF THE OIL BOYCOTT WAS TO ALIGN ALL OF WESTERN EUROPE BEHIND THE ARAB POSITION AND GET IT TO APPLY WHATEVER PRESSURE NECESSARY TO MAKE THE ISRAELIS ADOPT A MORE REASONABLE ATTITUDE.

4. DRAWING ON THE VERY HELPFUL REPORTS OF ASSISTANT SECRETARY SISCO'S RECENT CONVERSATIONS WITH THE NORWEGIAN AND OTHER EUROPEAN AMBASSADORS, THE CHARGE SPELLED OUT IN SOME DETAIL THE SEVERAL STEPS WHICH THE US HAD ALREADY TAKEN TO STOP THE FIGHTING, IMPLEMENT THE CEASE FIRE AGREEMENT AND PREPARE FOR PEACE TALKS. NOWILATY DID NOT CONTEST THE CHARGE'S ASSERTAIN THAT THESE DEVELOPMENTS COULD NOT HAVE TAKEN PLACE EXCEPT FOR THE UNITED STATES' UNIQUE INFLUENCE WITH ISRAEL AND ITS WILLINGNESS TO USE IT. THE CHARGE ADDED THAT FROM THE ARAB POINT OF VIEW THE USE OF ALL AVAILABLE WEAPONS, INCLUDING THE ECONOMIC ONE OF THE OIL BOYCOTT, WAS UNDERSTANDABLE WHILE THE FIGHTING WAS GOING ON. NOW HOWEVER WE ARE IN A DIFFERENT AND MORE PROMISING SITUATION WITH THE POSPECT OF DIRECT NEGO-TIATIONS BETWEEN THE PROTAGONISTS FOR THE FIRST TIME SINCE 1947. CHARGE REITERATED THAT THIS SITUATION COULD NOT HAVE COME ABOUT WITHOUT FIRM AND PERSEVERING ACTION BY THE UNITED STATES. IN THESE CIRCUMSTANCES THE UNITED STATES HAD A RIGHT TO EXPECT AN ACKNOWLEDGMENT BY THE ARABS IN THE FORM OF A SUSPENSION OF THE OIL BOYCOTT. A GREAT NATION COULD NOT BE EXPECTED TO WORK EFFECTIVELY FOR THE RESOLUTION OF A FUNDAMENTAL CONFLICT WHEN ONE OF THE TWO PARTIES CONTINUED TO EXERT HIGHLY DISCRIMINATORY ECONOMIC PRESSURE.

5. THE CHARGE ADDED THE PERSONAL THOUGHT THAT IT WAS ILLUSORY FOR THE ARABS TO EXPECT THAT THEY COULD COMPEL WESTERN EUROPE TO BREAK COMPLETELY WITH THE UNITED
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STATES BY GIVING ULL BACKING TO THE ARAB SIDE. THIS MIGHT NOT BE SUCH AN UNREALISTIC HOPE IF RUSSIA AND EASTERN EUROPE WERE NOT UNDER THE DOMINATION AND CONTROL OF SOVIET COMMUNISM. SINCE THAT WAS THE CASE, HOWEVER, IT WAS INCONCEIVABLE THAT THE WESTERN EUROPEANS WOULD WANT TO PART COMPANY WITH THE UNITED STATES AND THEREBY SUBJECT THEMSELVES TO SOVIET THREATS AND PRESSURES AGAINST THEIR FREEDOM AND INDEPENDENCE.

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6. THE CONVERSATION TOOK PLACE IN A FRANK AND FRIENDLY ATMOSPHERE, DESPITE SOME STRONG DIFFERENCES OF VIEW. AMBASSADOR NOWILATY AGREED READILY WITH THE CHARGE'S SUGGESTION TO RESUME THE CONVERSATION AFTER THE ARAB SUMMIT.
TANGUY

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: PETROLEUM, DIPLOMATIC DISCUSSIONS, EMBARGOES, ECONOMIC WARFARE
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 30 NOV 1973
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: garlanwa
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1973THEHA05244
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: n/a
From: THE HAGUE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1973/newtext/t1973111/aaaaaagt.tel
Line Count: 120
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 3
Previous Channel Indicators:
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: n/a
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: garlanwa
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 19 SEP 2001
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <19-Sep-2001 by kelleyw0>; APPROVED <21-Nov-2001 by garlanwa>
Review Markings:

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US Department of State
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30 JUN 2005

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: CALL ON SAUDI ARABIAN AMBASSADOR
TAGS: PFOR, XF, XG, US, SA, (NOWILATY)
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 30 JUN 2005

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